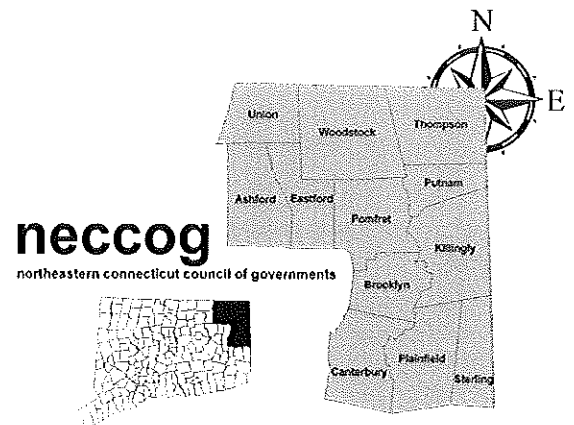


Testimony Regarding

Raised Bill 5493

**AN ACT CONCERNING PROPERTY  
TAX PAYMENTS DURING A CIVIL  
PREPAREDNESS EMERGENCY**



The Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (NECCOG) which is made up of the towns of Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson, Union and Woodstock strongly supports Raised Bill 5493. We urge the membership of the Planning and Development Committee to give this bill favorable consideration.

Tropical Storm Irene and the October Nor'easter of 2011 were, without question, significant events in the history of our state. Towns throughout Connecticut were significantly impacted. The 12 member towns of NECCOG were no exception to the adverse impacts of these two events. Several of our towns were essentially shut down for days and parts were not functional for more than a week. The focus of our towns, as it should be, during these events was on the health and welfare of its residents. Tax payments, despite the statutory requirements - were not a priority.

Raised Bill 5493 is simple in application and common sense in approach. It simply allows that in the case of declared emergencies by the Governor that "no installment of property tax shall be considered delinquent" during the duration of any such emergency. This proposed change is good for taxpayers and municipalities - allowing each to focus on the emergency at hand.

Thank you for your consideration of our position. For more information, please contact: John Filchak, Executive Director - [john.filchak@necog.org](mailto:john.filchak@necog.org)